Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A compliant member for use in a fuel cell having a plate structure defining a wet seal area, said wet seal area being adjacent an electrode and current collector, said compliant member being arrangeable in said wet seal area and comprising a planar body member, wherein sections cut out of the planar body member at locations within the periphery of the planar body member extend outwardly of the plane of the planar body member, said sections ~~within~~ of said planar body member imparting compliance to said compliant member, and

wherein said planar body member is ~~configured~~ dimensioned such that when said compliant member ~~to be fit~~ is arranged within said wet seal area the periphery of said planar body member is within said wet seal area ~~in which said compliant member is arranged~~.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 1, wherein said wet seal area is defined by the region between a flat section and another portion of said plate structure opposite said flat section, said flat section being a part of a flange formed by folding over an edge of said plate structure so that said flat section faces a surface of said plate structure having said another portion.

Claim 4 (Previously presented) A compliant member according to claim 1, wherein said body member is flat and one side of each of said sections of said body member is joined to said body member.

Claim 5 (Previously presented) A compliant member according to claim 4, wherein the one side of each of said sections that is joined to said body member is on the same side of each of said sections of said body member.

Claim 6 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 5 wherein said body member and said sections are made from a superalloy material or spring.

Claim 7 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 6, wherein in the uncompressed state of said compliant member, the side of each of said sections opposite said one side joined to said body member is disposed at a distance of 0.01-0.06 inches from said flat body member, and said sections extend outwardly of the plane of said flat body member at an angle of 2-50 degrees.

Claim 8 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 7, wherein said angle is reduced as compressive load is applied to said fuel cell.

Claim 9 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 8, wherein said sections are disposed in the plane of the flat body member when said compliant member is fully compressed.

Claim 10 (Previously presented) A compliant member according to claim 6 wherein the composition of said superalloy material comprises 50-58 weight % Ni, 17-21 weight % Cr, 2.8-10.5 weight % Mo, 0.5-3.3 weight % Ti, and 0.2-1.8 weight % Al.

Claim 11 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 6 wherein said body member and each of said sections is rectangular.

Claim 12 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 1, wherein said sections are arranged in rows which extend along the length of said body member and which are spaced along the width of said body.

Claim 13 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 12, wherein one side of each of said sections of said body member is attached to said body member.

Claim 14 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 13, wherein said one side of each of said sections extends along one of the length of said body member and the width of said body member.

Claim 15 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 14, wherein the one side of each of said sections extends along the length of said body member.

Claim 16 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 14, wherein the one side of each of said sections extends along the width of said body member.

Claim 17 (Original) A compliant member according to claim 12, wherein said rows of sections are offset one from the other in the length direction of said body member.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) A fuel cell for use in a fuel cell stack, said fuel cell having a plate structure defining an active fuel cell area and a wet seal area bordering said active fuel cell area, said fuel cell further comprising:

a current collector abutting said active fuel cell area and extending into said wet seal area;

an electrode abutting said current collector over a region which excludes the region of said current collector extending into said wet seal area;

a compliant member abutting said current collector over a region of said current collector extending into said wet seal area, said compliant member comprising a planar body member, wherein sections cut out of the planar body member at locations within the periphery of said planar body member extend outwardly of the plane of the planar body member, said

sections ~~within~~ of said planar body member imparting compliance to said compliant member, and

wherein said planar body member is ~~configured~~ dimensioned such that the periphery of said planar body member is ~~to fit~~ within said wet seal area.

Claim 19 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 18, wherein two opposite edges of said plate structure are folded over a first surface of said plate structure forming two flanges adjacent said first surface of said plate structure, each of said flanges comprising a flat section spaced apart from and parallel to said first surface of said plate structure, said wet seal area being defined by the region between a flat section of a first one of said two flanges and a portion of said first surface of said plate structure opposite that flat section.

Claim 20 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 19, wherein said active fuel cell area is the area between said two flanges on said first surface of said plate structure.

Claim 21 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 20, wherein said electrode is one of a cathode and an anode electrode.

Claim 22 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 21, further comprising a further compliant member abutting said current collector over a region of said current collector extending into a further wet seal area bordering said active area, said further wet seal area being defined by the region between a flat section of a second one of said two flanges and a portion of said first surface of said plate structure opposite that flat section, said further compliant member comprising a further body member having further sections extending outwardly of the plane of the further body member, said further sections imparting compliance to said further compliant member.

Claim 23 (Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 18, wherein said body member is flat and one side of each of said sections of said body member is joined to said body member.

Claim 25 (Previously presented) A fuel cell according to claim 24, wherein the one side of each of said sections that is joined to said body member is on the same side of each of said sections of said body member.

Claim 26 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 24, wherein said body member and said sections are made from a superalloy material or spring.

Claim 27 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 26, wherein in the uncompressed state of said compliant member: the side of each of said sections opposite said one side joined to said body member is disposed at a distance of 0.01 - 0.06 inches from said body member, and said sections extend outwardly of the plane of said flat body member at an angle of 2-50 degrees.

Claim 28 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 27, wherein said angle is reduced as compressive load is applied to said fuel cell.

Claim 29 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 28, wherein said sections are disposed in the plane of the flat body member when said compliant member is fully compressed.

Claim 30 (Previously presented) A fuel cell according to claim 26 wherein the composition of said superalloy material comprises 50-58 weight % Ni, 17-21 weight % Cr, 2.8-10.5 weight % Mo, 0.5-3.3 weight % Ti, and 0.2-1.8 weight % Al.

Claim 31 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 26 wherein said body member and each of said sections is rectangular.

Claim 32 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 18, wherein, said sections are arranged in rows which extend along the length of said body member and which are spaced along the width of said body.

Claim 33 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 32, wherein one side of each of said sections of said body member is attached to said body member.

Claim 34 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 33, wherein said one side of each of said sections extends along one of the length of said body member and the width of said body member.

Claim 35 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 34, wherein the one side of each of said sections extends along the length of said body member.

Claim 36 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 34, wherein the one side of each of said sections extends along the width of said body member.

Claim 37 (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 32, wherein said rows of sections are offset one from the other in the length direction of said body member.